1.   (currently amended) A method for restricting access to a set of resources in a distributed data processing system, the method comprising:

determining a set of authorized resources for which a user is authorized to access, wherein the set of authorized resources is a subset of the set of resources;

obtaining state information about the set of authorized resources;

evaluating availability of the set of authorized resources ~~based upon~~ <u>by comparing</u> the state information about the set of authorized resources <u>against a configurable rule associated with one or more resources in the set of authorized resources</u>;

in response to evaluating availability of the set of authorized resources <u>using the configurable rule</u>, generating a list of a set of entitled resources for the user, wherein the set of entitled resources is a subset of the set of authorized resources; and

preventing the user from accessing resources that are in the set of authorized resources but that are not in the set of entitled resources.

2.   (original) The method of claim 1 further comprising:

sending an indication of the set of entitled resources to the user.

3.   (original) The method of claim 1 further comprising:

responding to requests for the user to access the set of entitled resources.

4.   (cancelled)

5.   (original) The method of claim 1 further comprising:

considering user attributes of the user while evaluating availability of the set of authorized resources.

6.   (cancelled)

7.   (original) The method of claim 1 further comprising:

gathering state information for the set of resources using a distributed monitoring

application.

8.   (currently amended) An apparatus for restricting access to a set of resources in a

distributed data processing system, the apparatus comprising:

means for determining a set of authorized resources for which a user is authorized to

access, wherein the set of authorized resources is a subset of the set of resources;

means for obtaining state information about the set of authorized resources;

means for evaluating availability of the set of authorized resources ~~based upon~~ <u>by</u>

<u>comparing</u> the state information about the set of authorized resources <u>against a configurable rule</u>

<u>associated with one or more resources in the set of authorized resources</u>;

means for generating a list of a set of entitled resources for the user in response to

evaluating availability of the set of authorized resources, wherein the set of entitled resources is a

subset of the set of authorized resources; and

means for preventing the user from accessing resources that are in the set of authorized

resources but that are not in the set of entitled resources.

9.   (original) The apparatus of claim 8 further comprising:

means for sending an indication of the set of entitled resources to the user.

10.   (original) The apparatus of claim 8 further comprising:

means for responding to requests for the user to access the set of entitled resources.

11.   (cancelled)

12.   (original) The apparatus of claim 8 further comprising:

means for considering user attributes of the user while evaluating availability of the set of

authorized resources.

13.   (cancelled)

14.   (original) The apparatus of claim 8 further comprising:

means for gathering state information for the set of resources using a distributed monitoring application.

15.   (currently amended) A computer program product in a computer readable medium for use in a distributed data processing system for restricting access to a set of resources, the computer program product comprising:

means for determining a set of authorized resources for which a user is authorized to access, wherein the set of authorized resources is a subset of the set of resources;

means for obtaining state information about the set of authorized resources;

means for evaluating availability of the set of authorized resources ~~based upon~~ <u>by</u> <u>comparing</u> the state information about the set of authorized resources <u>against a configurable rule</u> <u>associated with one or more resources in the set of authorized resources</u>; and

means for generating a list of a set of entitled resources for the user in response to evaluating availability of the set of authorized resources, wherein the set of entitled resources is a subset of the set of authorized resources; and

means for preventing the user from accessing resources that are in the set of authorized resources but that are not in the set of entitled resources.

16.   (original) The computer program product of claim 15 further comprising:

means for sending an indication of the set of entitled resources to the user.

17.   (original) The computer program product of claim 15 further comprising:

means for responding to requests for the user to access the set of entitled resources.

18.   (cancelled)

19.   (original) The computer program product of claim 15 further comprising:

means for considering user attributes of the user while evaluating availability of the set of authorized resources.

20.   (cancelled)

21.   (original) The computer program product of claim 15 further comprising:

means for gathering state information for the set of resources using a distributed monitoring application.